

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 and 18 have been amended, and claims 4, 7-9 and 21 canceled. The subject matter canceled from claims 4 and 21 (and 7) has been incorporated into their respective independent claims. Claims 1, 2, 5-6, 18, 19 and 22-23 are pending. No new matter is added.

By way of the Office Action mailed May 2, 2003, the drawings were objected to as noted in the Office Action. In accordance with the Examiner's recommendations and now approval, the Applicant has made changes to the drawings which add the clarity needed, and replacement sheets are submitted herewith. Accordingly, the objection to the application in this regard is requested to be withdrawn.

By way of the Office Action mailed May 2, 2003, a preliminary double patenting rejection has been made. Applicant submits a terminal disclaimer, herewith, to obviate this rejection. Accordingly, the rejection of the application in this regard is requested to be withdrawn.

By way of the Office Action mailed May 2, 2003, claims 1, 2, 4-6, 7-9 and 18, 19, 21-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as allegedly being unpatentable over *Craig et al.* (US 6,286,712) in view of *Mertens* (US 4,768,810). This rejection is respectfully **traversed** to the extent that it may apply to the presented claims. Applicant submits that the rejection of these claims is now moot, because as amended, none of the art of record, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests the presently claimed invention.

For example, the present invention recites at least two clips of fan folded sheets. Each clip is formed from a unitary web of material, with each sheet in the clip being joined to an adjacent sheet by a weakened line (e.g., weakened line as taught in Applicant's specification at page 5, lines 19-20). This is completely contrary to the teaching in *Craig et al.* which only teaches interfolded sheets, where each sheet is an individual sheet formed from a discrete web relative to the webs used to form the other sheets with which it is interfolded. In this regard, see *Craig et al.* at column 2, line 66 to column 3, line 4. There is simply no teaching or possibility within *Craig et al.* which would allow its teaching to be modified to comprise the recited unitary web of material forming the folded sheets within the clips of fan folded material where each sheet in the clip is connected to an adjacent sheet by a weakened line relationship. Additionally, as now presented, independent claims 1 and 18 further recite that the folds of the sheets in the clips are in the machine direction. Such "machine direction" is well defined in the specification throughout, and e.g., at page 5, lines 7-9. This definition applies to the use of these words

in the specification and the claims, because that is what Applicant dictates in the specification. *Mertens* does not compensate for either of these deficiencies in *Craig et al.* *Mertens* is a single stack of perforation connected sheets. There is no teaching for forming at least two clips of fan folded material, each clip from from a unitary piece of material, and then the sheets within that clip folded in a machine direction of the sheets. The sheets in *Mertens* are folded in the cross machine direction (i.e., where the machine direction would be moving in the direction left (or right) relative to Figure 2 in *Mertens*). Accordingly, this is contrary to another recited feature of the invention (i.e., the folds having to be formed in a machine direction). To form clips as recited by Applicant is contrary to *Mertens*, and then to form them such that the folds are formed in the machine direction of the sheets within the clip is further contrary to *Mertens*. Accordingly, the rejection of the claims based on *Craig et al.* in view of *Mertens* is requested to be withdrawn.

In conclusion, all of the grounds raised in the outstanding Office Action for objection to or rejecting the application are believed to be accommodated, overcome or rendered moot. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently presented claims are in form for allowance and such action is requested in due course.

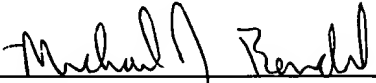
Also submitted at this time is a request for a one month extension of time.

Please charge any prosecutorial fees which are due to Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc. deposit account number 11-0875.

The undersigned may be reached at: 920-721-6854.

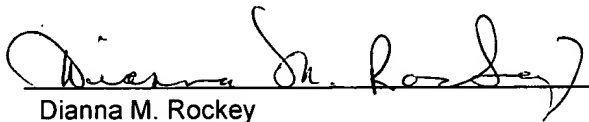
Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I, Dianna M. Rockey, hereby certify that on September 2, 2003 this document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

By: 
Dianna M. Rockey